The Dam Safety Organizations (DSO) of CWC has prepared a number of guidelines and dam safety related literature and circulated to the State Government and State DSOs to guide them in the safety inspections of existing dams and remedial actions. The DSO was called upon to assist in many projects in which distress was/has been noticed for identifying the causes and to suggest appropriate remedial measures.

(c) The Government of India, Ministry of Water Resources constituted the National Committee on Dam Safety (NCDS) to oversee dam safety activities in various States and suggest improvements to bring dam safety practices in the line with the latest state-of-art technologies, consistent with Indian conditions.

As per the "Dam Safety Procedure" laid down by the committee, all large dams are required to be inspected twice a year during pre-and post-monsoon periods. These inspections are being carried out by the "Dam Safety Organizations" of the respective States/owners of dams.

The States and dam owning organizations have also to review the safety aspects of all the large dams once in 10 years by independent review panels.

(d) Responsibility for maintenance and operation of dams lies with the dam owners. CWC plays only an advisory role for suggesting remedial measures to the problems, if specific request is received from the State Government/organizations in this regard.

Cess on ground water

1620. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 1800 licenced bottled water units in the country pay a mere 30 paise per 1000 litres of water sourced from ground, as cess;

(b) whether in contrast to general industry sector that draws ground water for industrial purpose, the bottled water untis used ground water as its only raw material and sell it at more than 250 times the cost; and

(c) whether Government would consider imposing a higher rate of cess on ground water on bottled water untis, commensurating with their profit margin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) As per information received from the Ministry of Environment and Forests, water cess is levied and collected by the State Pollution Control Boards for prevention and control of water pollution. Differential rates of cess are collected depending upon the use of water, the rate being higher where pollution load is expected to be more, which results in higher cost of pollution abatement and varies from 2 paise per 1000 litres for domestic purposes to 30 paise per 1000 litres for industrial purposes.

(c) The Ministry of Water Resources has no proposal for imposing a higher rate of cess on ground water on bottled water units, commensurating with their profit margin.

National Policy on Flood Control

1621. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any National Policy on Flood Control in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of funds allocated for the various States for the purpose during the current year, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to save the lives and properties of flood affected people of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. "National Policy on Flood Control" has not been formulated. However, the issues related to flood management are duly addressed in the National Water Policy, 2002.

(c) and (d) Activities related to flood management are implemented by the respective State Governments from their own resources. The State-wise allocation for the year 2007-08 for activities under plan scheme is given in the Statement (*See* below). Government of India provides technical support through studies and maintaining a network of flood forecasting stations. Assistance is also provided for flood management works in critical reaches including bank erosion activities under central schemes. States also receive financial assistance under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Contingency Calamity Fund (NCCF).

Statement

Approved Outlay for Flood Control—2007-08

Sl. No.	Name of States and UTs	Rs. (crore)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	332.60
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.50
3.	Assam	69.00
4.	Bihar	316.80
5.	Chhattisgarh	3.70
6.	Goa*	19.40
7.	Gujarat	82.95
8.	Haryana	70.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	19.70
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.23
11.	Jharkhand	7.00
12.	Karnataka	12.56
13.	Kerala	44.65
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3.69
15.	Maharashtra	1.84
16.	Manipur	13.54
17.	Meghalaya	2.50
18.	Nagaland	1.50
19.	Orissa	17.50
20.	Punjab	83.48
21.	Rajasthan	8.08

1	2	3
22.	Sikkim	6.60
23.	Tamil Nadu	43.00
24.	Tripura	15.01
25.	Uttar Pradesh*	40.00
26.	Uttaranchal	12.06
27.	West Bengal	140.78
28.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	8.05
29.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli*	1.00
30.	Daman & Diu	0.39
31.	Delhi	49.00
32.	Lakshadweep	6.03
33.	Pondicherry	23.29
	TOTAL	1467.43

*Proposed outlay by the State: approved outlay yet to be finalised.

Bhakra-Beas Management Board

†1622. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to State:

(a) whether the management of Ropar, Firozpur and Harike head-works was supposed to be given to Bhakra-Beas Management Board under the provisions of Punjab Reorganization Act, 1966;

(b) if so, the reasons for not handing over the management of the said head-works to Bhakra-Beas Management Board;

(c) the authority responsible for the implementation of the provision of the said Act and who stands accountable for not fulfilling the responsibility in this regard; and

(d) by when the management of the head-works mentioned in part (a) would be handed over to Bhakra-Beas Management Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB), constituted under the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966 (Act) was envisaged, *inter alia* as per Section 79(1)(c) of the Act, for the administration, maintenance and operation of the irrigation headworks of Rupur (Ropar), Harike and Ferozepur.

(b) to (d) Government of Punjab has not transferred the said headworks to BBMB. The issue of transfer of control of the said headworks by Punjab to BBMB was discussed in Inter-State meetings involving States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. However, no agreement was arrived. The matter is now *sub judice*. Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan in a judgement dated 02.05.05 in a Civil Writ Petition directed BBMB to take over control of the above head works from Punjab within 30 days. The State of Punjab filed a Special Leave Petition against the judgement and Hon'ble Supreme Court stayed the operation of the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.